

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

CENTRE RIDGE CHURCH,

CARLOWVILLE, DALLAS COUNTY, ALABAMA,

Oct. 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1955.

AND OF THE

BIBLE SOCIETY

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION:

Held at the same time and place.

TUSKEGEE, ALA.

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE "SOUTHERN BAPTIST"  
1855



## MINUTES

CENTRE RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH,  
Dallas Co., Friday, Oct. 12th, 1855. }

The *Thirty-sixth Annual Session* of the Alabama Baptist Association was held with the Centre Ridge Church. In the absence of the appointed preacher, Elder W. E. Wiatt preached the Introductory Sermon from Gen. 4th ch. 9th v. :  
“*Am I my brother’s keeper ?*”

After a short recess, the Delegates from the different Churches composing this body, re-assembled in the meeting house. The business of the Association was opened by the Moderator, Elder D. Lee. Prayer by Elder R. Carson. Called for the Letters from the different Churches, which were read and the names of the Delegates enrolled, as follows :

- Shiloh*—C. H. Cleveland, L. Johnson, M. S. Cleveland.  
*Centre Ridge*.—C. F. STURGS, R. P. Lide, D. R. Lide.  
*Mt. Lebanon, Dallas*.—R. CARSON, T. W. Robinson,\* W. Wade.  
*Damascus*—H. S. Staggers, I. H. Rhane, J. Perry.  
*Spring Hill*—S. Anderson,\* V. Alford.  
*New Hope*—I. L. Nixon,\* T. Pharaoh,\* S. Bishop.\*  
*Union*—J. E. BELL, J. M. Michell, T. C. McDaniel.  
*Sister Springs*—J. Johnson,\* S. Fedrick, J. Carter.\*  
*Town Creek*—F. Hardy, L. Edwards, W. W. Hardy.  
*Benton*—I. LYON, W. Gresham\* J. Brazer.\*  
*Mt. Gilead*—T. Barlow, J. Edwards.\* G. Traylor.\*  
*Bethany*—P. H. LUNDY, W. B. Haralson, B. M. Loveless.\*  
*Ash Creek*—D. PEEBLES, E. G. Wagner,\* D. Gordon.  
*Hopewell*—D. LEE, S. Hawkins, A. J. Ray.\*  
*Hickory Grove*—W. E. WIATT, J. A. FONVILLE,\* F. L. Ellis.  
*Hayneville*—M. Thomas,\* B. B. Ridulph.\*  
*Lowndesboro’*—Letter.  
*Good Hope*—W. Bullock, A. Peagler.  
*Elim*—R. H. Molton, M. McLemore,\* A. J. McLemore.\*  
*Panther Creek*—W. B. Parker, C. Cow, H. Rogers.\*  
*Greenwood*—W. Fitzpatrick,\* J. Brown,\* M. H. Barnett.\*  
*Ebenezer*—W. M. Dick,\* E. B. Adam, J. Cloud.  
*Philadelphia*—E. Allen,\* J. G. Cook.\*  
*Bethesda*.—W. Foster, V. Noble,\* J. Cone.\*  
*Pine Level*—A. Frazer,\* H. W. Clark,\* N. D. Wright.

*Mt. Lebanon, Montgomery*—G. Long, W. Amerson,\* A. Jones.\*

*Armageddon*—Letter.

*Fellowship*.—M. Fronnaberger.

*Unity*—L. B. Tatum.

*Smyrna* has been dissolved.

NOTE.—Ordained Ministers' names in SMALL CAPITALS; absentees marked\*

### Officers Elected.

The Association proceeded to the election of officers.. The following brethren were chosen: D. LEE, Moderator; I. LYON, Clerk, and W. B. HARALSON, Treasurer.

Ministers present, not members of this body, were invited to seats therein.

Providence Church, dismissed two years ago, requested to be re-admitted. Her request was granted. Delegates, C. M. Cochran, J. A. Norwood,\* J. Lake.\* The following Churches requested to be admitted into the Association. Their request was granted:

*New Ebenezer*, Lowndes county, J. J. Hudson, D. Davis,\* R. Schofield.

*Bethel*, Lowndes county, S. Jordan, J. Kolb, D. H. Burt.\*

*Salem*, Montgomery county, J. Nickols.\* G. W. Brassel.

The following Committees were appointed by the Moderator:

On Preaching, F. Hardy, L. Johnson, R. H. Molton, with the Deacons of the Centre Ridge Church.

On Missions, D. Peebles, C. F. Sturgis, C. H. Cleveland, T. Barlow, D. R. Lide.

On Documents, C. F. Sturgis, C. M. Cochran, J. E. Bell, S. Fedrick, L. B. Tatum.

On the State of the Churches, W. E. Wiatt, A. Peagler, W. W. Hardy, W. Wade, S. Jordan.

On Finance, R. H. Molton, D. R. Lide, D. Gordon.

Auditing Committee, M. S. Cleveland, W. S. Foster, R. P. Lide.

On Periodicals, P. H. Jundy, D. Peebles, T. Barlow, R. Carson, C. F. Sturgis.

On motion.

*Resolved*, That funds not designated in the letters of a Church, the Delegates from said Church shall direct the same.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That Elder J. D. Williams be allowed to present the claims of the Foreign Mission Board at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

On motion, it was

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Periodicals be instructed to take into consideration the propriety of publishing in pamphlet form the controversy between Bro. Henderson and the Rev. E. J. Hamill, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and report to this body at as early a period as practicable.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. D. Williams.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Association met according to appointment. Prayer by Elder D. Peebles.

The minutes of yesterday's meeting were read and approved and the roll called. The Rules of Decorum were also read.

#### CALLED FOR CORRESPONDENCE.

From the Tuskegee Association,	W. B. Jones.
“ “ Salem “	J. Carlisle.
“ “ Bethlehem “	T. Anthony.
“ “ Bethel “	A. Holmes.
“ “ Pine Barren, “	C. W. Hare, E. E. Kirven, P. Stout.
From the Cahaba Association,	E. Sherrer, F.M. Law,
J. Walker, J. H. DeVotie.	
From the Central Association,	J. D. Williams.
“ “ Unity “	Letter.

A Letter and Circular from the Corresponding Secretary of the Bible Board of the Southern Baptist Convention were referred to a committee of three, consisting of brethren P. H. Lundy, C. H. Cleveland and C. F. Sturgis, to report at 3 o'clock to-day.

Elder P. Stout appeared as the Agent for the Southern Baptist Publication Society.

#### Returned Correspondence.

To the Tuskegee Association, to meet at Pine Level on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1856—P. H. Lundy, D. Peebles, W. E. Wiatt, J. E. Bell, D. Gordon, R. H. Molton, T. Barlow.

To the Salem Association, to meet at Helicon on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1856, W. S. Foster, N. D. Wright, W. E. Wiatt, H. S. Staggers, J. A. Fonville, F. L. Ellis, J. E. Bell, S. Jordan.

To the Bethlehem Association, to meet at Belleville on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1856, D. Lee, S. Fedrick, I. Lyon, H. S. Staggers, D. Peebles.

To the Bethel Association, to meet at Pisgah Church, Wilcox county. on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1856, J. A. Norwood, D. R. Lide, C. F. Sturgis.

To the Pine Barren Association, to meet on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1855, C. F. Sturgis, D. Lee, R. P. Lide, J. E. Bell, D. R. Lide.

Bro. W. E. Wiatt to write the corresponding letter to the Cahaba Association, to meet on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1855.

To the Central Association, to meet at Friendship, near Bradford, Coosa county, on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1856, I. T. Tichenor, L. Edwards, W. H. Alford, J. S. Holmes.

To the Unity Association, to meet on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, 1855, T. Barlow, W. B. Haralson, D. Gordon, L. Edwards, M. S. Cleveland, L. Johnson, E. W. Hardy, C. H. Cleveland—Bro. J. E. Bell to write the corresponding letter.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention, to meet at La Fayette, Chambers county, on Friday before the second Sabbath in April, 1856, C. F. Sturgis, C. H. Cleveland, P. H. Lundy, D. Peebles, D. Gordon, I. T. Tichenor, T. J. Molton, R. Carson, H. W. Watson, L. Edwards.

Elder J. D. Williams presented the claims of the Foreign Mission Board, particularly with respect to Missions in Africa.

*Resolved*, That an effort be made to raise funds in the Association and Churches of this body, either in cash or pledges, towards defraying the expenses of maintaining a missionary in Africa

A collection for this purpose was then made, amounting to \$112,00; cash, \$22,00; pledges, \$90,00.

Appointed Bro. Lunday to write the general corresponding letter.

Appointed the next annual session of this Association to be held with Mt. Gilead Church, on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1856—Elder D. Lee to preach the Introductory; Elder J. E. Bell, alternate; and Elder I. T. Tichenor to preach the annual Missionary Sermon; Elder C. F. Sturgis, alternate.

Adjourned for one hour.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK.

The Committee on Periodicals reported. Report adopted.—[*Appendix A.*]

Report of the Committee on Finance referred to the Auditing Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Declaration of Faith of the Alabama Baptist Association, with the Scripture proofs, be appended to the Minutes.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of one from each district be appointed to nominate a Missionary Board and locate the same. The Moderator appointed R. P. Lide, P. H. Lundy, R. H. Molton.

The special Committee, to whom were referred the Letter and Circular of the Secretary of the Bible Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, reported—That the Association take a recess on Monday morning at 10 o'clock, for the formation of an Associational Bible Society, auxiliary to the State Bible Society, and also to employ a colporteur within the bounds of the Association. Report adopted.

Report of the Treasurer referred to the Auditing Committee.

*Resolved*, That after the Missionary Sermon on to-morrow, a collection be made for general Domestic and Indian Missions.

Adjourned until Monday morning at 9. Prayer by Elder J. Walker.

### LORD'S DAY.

At 11 o'clock Elder J. Walker preached the Missionary Sermon when a collection was taken up: in cash, for Domestic Missions, \$52.50; Indian Missions, \$53.30. Pledges for Indian Missions, \$220.00. At 2 P. M. Elder P. H. Lundy preached, and at night, Elder D. Peebles.

### MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'clock.

Prayer by Elder I. M. Wilkes.

The minutes of Saturday's meeting were read and adopted.

Report of the Missionary Board adopted.—[*Appendix B.*]

Appointed a Committee of three to district the Churches.

The Moderator appointed P. H. Molton, D. Gordon, C. H. Cleveland.

Report of the Committee on Missions adopted.—[*Appendix C.*]

Report of the Committee on the State of the Churches adopted.—[*Appendix D.*]

Granted a letter of dismission to Ebenezer Church, to unite with the Tuskegee Association

Report of the Committee on Documents adopted.—[*Appendix E.*]

*Resolved*. That a special Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of supporting another beneficiary in Howard College.

Committee: P. H. Lundy, D. Peebles, C. H. Cleveland. Brethren J. Walker and J. H. Devotic were requested to act in conjunction with said committee.

*Resolved*. That the application of Armageddon and Spring Hill Churches for aid to their Pastors be referred to the Missionary Board

The appointed time for the formation of an Associational Bible Society having arrived, the subject was taken into consideration. For proceedings, refer to the Minutes of the Society herewith appended.

*Resolved*, That the Alabama Baptist Associational Bible Society have the privilege of printing their Minutes with those of this Association.

The committee to elect and locate the Missionary Board reported. Report, after having been re-committed for amendment, was adopted.—[*Appendix F.*]

Report of the committee respecting another beneficiary, adopted, and after having been reconsidered was re-adopted.—[*Appendix G.*]

Report of the committee to re-district the churches adopted.—[*Appendix H.*]

Adopted the general corresponding letter.—[*Appendix I.*]

Adopted the corresponding letters to the Pine Barren and Unity Associations.

Report of Auditing committee adopted.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer be authorised to pay to the officers of the different Societies present, their share of the Convention Funds.

*Resolved*, That the Finance Committee be authorised to pay the Minute Fund to the Clerk of the Association.

*Resolved*, That thirty dollars be paid to the Clerk for his services.

*Resolved*, That any member of this Association attending the meetings of any other Association, be considered a messenger to represent this body.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association be presented to the Church and community in the neighborhood for their kind attentions during the session of this body.

Adjourned to meet with Mt. Gilead Church, near Benton, Lowndes county, on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1856.

After prayer by Elder J. Walker, and singing, the right hand of fellowship was given by the members; and thus closed a most harmonious, and we trust beneficial meeting of the Alabama Baptist Association.

D. LEE, *Moderator*.

I. LYON, *Clerk*.



# APPENDIX.

## REPORT A.

### On Periodicals.

While we recognise a preached Gospel as the great lever for overthrowing error and for building up the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth, we also know that there are valuable auxiliaries that may be brought to bear upon the same great object. To establish truth, to enlighten the mind, to chasten the imagination and to elevate man to the position which nature's God would have him occupy, properly conducted Periodicals and Newspapers are most valuable aids to an open Bible and a preached word. Consequently, as lovers of our race, as worshippers of the one true God, we are bound to aid in circulating such periodicals as breathe a pure morality and teach sound religious doctrines. We would therefore recommend the *Home and Foreign Journal* to our brethren as abundantly worthy of patronage. We also recommend the *South Western Baptist*, and bespeak for it the prayers and support of every Baptist in Alabama. We need and should have an organ through which our doctrines and ordinances can and will be promulgated and defended, and that such an organ shall accomplish the great end designed, it must be well supported. Up to this time, our paper has been compelled to struggle for existence, and most of those brethren who have been connected with it, have suffered by it a pecuniary loss. This should not be. Neither one man nor a few brethren should be expected to sustain our denominational organ. The *South Western Baptist* ought to have from Alabama alone 5000 paying subscribers; give that number, and you will place it in the power of its managers to make it all that a religious and literary people can ask. We are gratified to learn that the prospects of the paper are already brightening, and we confidently hope that the time will speedily arrive, when the *South Western Baptist* shall be found in every Baptist family in Alabama.

We also recommend the *Baptist Memorial*, edited by Dr. Burrows, of Richmond, Virginia, as a most valuable religious periodical, worthy of the support of our entire denomination.

We also recommend the publication of the late discussion in the *South Western Baptist* between the Rev. Samuel Henderson and the Rev. E. J. Hamill, in book or pamphlet form, with such additional matter on Church Government as the said Rev. S. Henderson may desire.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. H. LUNDY,  
Chairman.

## REPORT B.

### Of the Missionary Board.

During the past year, we have had two Missionaries in the field for part of the time. Rev. James Richardson labored for one month and a-half after the adjournment of the last Association, and then retired from the field, to pursue a theological course at Howard College. Rev. J. E. Bell has devoted three-fourths of his time during the entire year to the missionary work, excepting one month. He reports as follows: Travelled about 1000 miles; preached 75 sermons; visited 100 families; baptised 16; constituted 2 churches. During the year, the Board seriously contemplated

uniting colportage with missionary labor, and declined to do it, because they doubted whether they were empowered thus to employ the funds of the Association. They respectfully refer this question to your body. As they have experienced some inconvenience from being at so great a distance from the Treasurer of the Association, they suggest that this officer be made a member of your board.

Respectfully submitted.

I. T. TICHENOR,  
Cor. Sec'y.

#### REPORT C.

##### Of the Committee on Missions.

The Committee on Missions report, that it is now about thirteen years since this Association commenced its operations as a Missionary body. Its labors of love have been abundantly blessed, even beyond our most sanguine expectations. Its alms and prayers have been responded to by copious out-pourings of the Spirit of Grace. During the thirteen years of its labors, 16 churches have been constituted by your missionaries and other ministers on mission ground, and about 1000 members added to our denominational strength. It has pleased God to bless the mission cause in this Association during the present year. Two churches have been added to this Association, and still there is a call for more missionary labor. The missions of our denomination generally are succeeding in the different nations, where they are located. Europe, long down-trodden by the man of sin, is awaking to a sense of her situation, and opening her doors to the heralds of salvation, and calling for the word of life. China and Africa are receiving the Gospel. A mighty work is in progress among some of the tribes of this continent. Thus our blessed Saviour is claiming the fulfillment of the Father's promise to give him the heathen for his inheritance and the utmost parts of the earth for a possession. In view of the success of the Missions of this Association, your committee offer the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That it is the duty of this Association to keep one or more missionaries in the field.

Respectfully submitted.

D. PEEBLES,  
Chairman.

#### REPORT D.

##### Of the Committee on the State of the Churches.

The Committee on the State of the Churches present the following report : A goodly number of our churches report revivals and prosperity. Unity, Damascus, Elim, Good Hope, Union, Bethesda, New Ebenezer, Salem, Centre Ridge, Lowndesboro', Shiloh and Spring Hill have all been blessed of the Lord. Providence and Bethany have had large accessions of colored members. Ebenezer, Armageddon, Benton, Town Creek, Pine Level, Bethany, Mt. Gilead and Mt. Lebanon both in Montgomery and Dallas counties, report coldness. Fellowship has had no pastor, but has sometimes had preaching, and has been blessed with several additions. Panther Creek, Ash Creek, Hayneville, Philadelphia, Hickory Grove, Hopewell, Sister Springs, Bethel, Greenwood and New Hope report nothing special ; have had few editions, but good congregations and much peace. We regret that we cannot present a greater degree of prosperity among our churches, but feel gratified to state, that universal harmony prevails in all of them. Our pecuniary contributions are not as large as they were last year, but we account for this, from the fact that several of our largest and wealthiest churches have not been represented by delegates, nor given a report by letter.

Respectfully submitted.

W. E. WIATT,  
Chairman.

REPORT E.  
**On Documents.**

The Committee on Documents report, That in examining the documents placed in their hands, they found as follows :

1st, That three new churches have been added to this body, which your committee feel a peculiar pleasure in noticing, from its connection with the domestic missionary operations within your bounds ; these churches having been collected and organized, (as your committee understand,) chiefly through the labors of your domestic missionary.

2d, In another letter, your committee find an allusion to the probability that this body will undertake the support of another beneficiary in Howard College, in the place of Bro. Bell ; your committee recommend that this subject be referred to a special committee, at the earliest practicable period during the present session.

3d, Your committee would call the attention of your body to the application of Armageddon and Spring Hill Churches for aid in support of their pastors.

4th, We find in the letter of Hickory Grove Church, notice of the ordination of Bro. W. E. Wiatt, and from other sources your committee are informed that Bro. J. E. Bell has been ordained to the full work of the Gospel Ministry during the past year. These your committee take pleasure in noticing, as encouraging indications, that the Lord is still willing to hear the prayer of his church, *"that he would send forth laborers into the harvest."*

5th, New Ebenezer Church requests that the Confession of Faith of this body be published in connection with the minutes of the present session ; which your committee recommend to be done accordingly.

6th, Ebenezer Church applies for a letter of dismission, with a view of uniting with the Tuskegee Association. We recommend that the letter be granted, yet we would be gratified to find that Ebenezer, in the East, like her sister Providence in the West, would yet conclude to continue her connection with this body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. STURGIS,  
 Chairman.

REPORT F.

**Of the Committee to nominate a Missionary Board,**

The committee to nominate a Missionary Board and locate the same, would recommend the location of the Board at Hopewell Church, Mount Willing, Lowndes county, This location has been selected from its proximity to the region of country where missionary labor is most needed, without intending in any degree to censure, or in any way cast a reflection upon the action of the present Board, located in Montgomery.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

Rev. DAVID LEE, PRESIDENT,

J. H. ROBERTSON,

Rev. D. PEEBLES,

J. B. BRAGG,

E. G. WAGNER,

D. GORDON,

W. B. HARALSON.

We also recommend that the Board be authorized to fill any vacancy that may occur.

D. LIDE,  
 Chairman.

REPORT G.

**Of the Committee respecting another Beneficiary in Howard College.**

Your Committee recommend this Association to become responsible for

the support of one Beneficiary in Howard College, and that Bro. Webster, now at the College, be that man.

P. H. LUNDY,

Chairman.

### REPORT H.

#### Of the Committee to re-district the Churches.

The Committee appointed to re-district the Churches recommend the following change :

##### FIRST DISTRICT.

Shiloh, Providence, Centre Ridge, Mt. Lebanon, (Dallas county,) Sister Springs, Town Creek, Bethany.

##### SECOND DISTRICT.

Benton, Mt. Gilead, Ash Creek, Hopewell, Hayneville, Good Hope, Lowndesboro', Fellowship, Bethel.

##### THIRD DISTRICT.

Unity, Montgomery, Elim, Rehoboth, Antioch, Salem.

##### FOURTH DISTRICT.

Damascus, Union, Spring Hill, Siloam, Zion, Hickory Grove, Philadelphia, Bethesda, Pine Level, Mt. Lebanon, (Montgomery county,) Armageddon, New Hope, New Ebenezer, Liberty, Panther Creek, Greenwood.

Respectfully submitted.

R. H. MOLTON,

Chairman.

### REPORT I.

#### General Corresponding Letter.

The Alabama Baptist Association to her sister Associations.

DEAR BRETHREN :—Again have we met as an Association for the transaction of the business submitted to us by the churches, and for the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom on earth. Sustained as we have been through another year by the kind Providence of God, additional obligations are imposed upon us to give thanks and praise to his glorious name. Our meeting has been harmonious; the spirit of love and kindness seemed to pervade the entire body. Brethren, our interest and our duty urge us to fidelity to Jesus and devotion to his cause. The addition to our churches has not been as great as in years that are past; this is to us a source of regret. We ask, brethren, an interest in your prayers and a cordial co-operation in every enterprise that has for its object the glory of God and the upbuilding of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Dear Brethren, we sincerely hope that at our next convocation, (which will be with Mt. Gilead Church, on Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1856,) we shall be cheered by the presence of many corresponding representatives from our several sister Associations.

D. LEE, *Moderator.*

I. LYON, *Clerk.*

# DECLARATION OF FAITH

## OF THE

### ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE I. *Of the Scriptures.* We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction ; *a* that it has God for its Author, *b* salvation for its end, *c* and truth without any mixture of error for its matter ; *d* that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us ; *e* and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, *f* and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions, should be tried. *g*

*a*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God ; and *is profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness ; That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works—2 Tim. iii. 16. 17. *b*For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man ; but holy men of God spake *as they were moved* by the Holy Ghost—2 Peter i. 21. *c*These things are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God ; and that, believing, ye might have life through his name—John xx. 31. *d*For the word of the Lord is right ; and all his works are done in truth—Psalm xxxiii. 4. *e*God shall judge the secrets of men according to my Gospel—Rom. ii. 10: And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.—Rev. xx. 12. *f*Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed—Gal. i. 9. *g*If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.—Gal. i. 10.

ART. II. *Of the True God.* That there is one, and only one, true and living God, *a* whose name is JEHOVAH. *b* the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth ; *c* inexpressibly glorious in holiness ; worthy of all confidence and love ; *d* revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, *e* and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. *f*

*a*God is one—Gal. iii. 20. *b*That men may know that thou, whose name is JEHOVAH, art the Most High over all the earth—Psalm lxxxiii. 18. *c*For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible—Col. i. 16. *d*Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders—Ex. xv. 11. *e*For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost ; and these three are one—1 John v. 7. For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily—Col. ii. 9. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God—Phil. ii. 6. *f*God sent his Son into the world, that the world through him might be saved—John iii. 17. Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures—Cor. xv. 3 And was raised again for our justification—Rom. iv. 25. He ever liveth to make intercession for them—Heb. vii. 25. It is the Spirit that quickeneth—John vi. 63.

ART. III. *Of the Fall of Man.* That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker,<sup>a</sup> but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state : in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice,<sup>b</sup> being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions ;<sup>c</sup> and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence and excuse.<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>So God created man in his own image—Gen. i. 27. God made man upright—Ec. vii. 29. <sup>b</sup>In Adam all die—1 Cor. xv. 22. There is none righteous, no, not one—Rom. iii. 10. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do—John viii. 44. <sup>c</sup>He that believeth not is condemned already ; because he hath not believed on the name of the only begotten Son of God—John iii. 18. Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction—2 Thes. i. 8. <sup>d</sup>And he was speechless—Matt. xxii. 12. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead ; so that they are without excuse—Rom. i. 20.

ART. IV. *Of the way of Salvation.* That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace,<sup>a</sup> through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God,<sup>b</sup> who took on him our nature, yet without sin ;<sup>c</sup> honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death ;<sup>d</sup> being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven ;<sup>e</sup> and uniting in his wonderful person, the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour.<sup>f</sup>

<sup>a</sup>For by grace are ye saved, through faith ; and that not of yourselves : it is the gift of God—Eph. ii. 8. <sup>b</sup>For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus—1 Tim. ii. 5. <sup>c</sup>For as much as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also took part of the same—Heb. ii. 14. And in him is no sin—1 John iii. 5. <sup>d</sup>The Lord is well pleased, for his righteousness' sake : He will magnify the law and make it honorable—Isa. xlii. 21. We were reconciled to God by the death of his Son—Rom. v. 10. <sup>e</sup>But we see Jesus—crowned with glory and honor—Heb. ii. 9. <sup>f</sup>For we have an high priest that can be touched with the feelings of our infirmities—Heb. iv. 15. For in him dwelleth the fullness of the Godhead bodily—Col. ii. 9.

ART. V. *Of Justification.* That the great Gospel blessing, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is Justification ;<sup>a</sup> that Justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness ;<sup>b</sup> that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness ;<sup>c</sup> that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Therefore being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ—Rom. v. 1. <sup>b</sup>Whosoever believeth in him shall receive

remission of sins—Acts x. 30. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life—John iii. 36. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God—Rom. iii. 25. *c*Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost—Titus iii. 5. *d*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?—Rom. viii. 32.

ART. VI. *Of the freeness of Salvation.* That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; *a* that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith; *b* and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; *c* which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation. *d*

*a*Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else—Isa. xlv. 22. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely—Rev. xxii. 17. *b*Now he commandeth all men everywhere to repent—Acts xvii. 30. *c*Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life—John v. 40. *d*It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom, in the day of judgment, than for thee—Matt. xi. 24.

ART. VII. *Of Grace in Regeneration.* That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated, or born again; *a* that Regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; *b* and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God. *c*

*a*Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God—John iii. 3. *b*And be renewed in the spirit of your mind. And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness—Eph. iv. 23, 24. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit—John iii. 8. Every one that loveth, is born of God, and knoweth God—1 John iv. 7. If a man love me, he will keep my words—John xiv. 23. *c*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them—Eph. ii. 10. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not—1 John v. 18.

ART. VIII. *Of God's purpose of Grace.* That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; *a* that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; *b* that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; *c* that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; *d* that it is ascertained

by its effects in all who believe the Gospel ;*e* is the foundation of Christian assurance ;*f* and that, to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.*g*

*a*God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth—2 Thes. ii. 13. *b*Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory—2 Tim. ii. 10. *c*According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy, and without blame before him in love—Eph. i. 4. *d*Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. *e*And they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful—Rev. xvii. 14. *f*Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth?—Rom. viii. 33, 34. *g*Wherefore the rather, brethren, give all diligence to make your calling and election sure—2 Peter i. 10.

ART. IX. *Of the perseverance of Saints.* That such only are real believers as endure unto the end ;*a* that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors ;*b* that a special Providence watches over their welfare ; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.*c*

*a*Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin ; for his seed remaineth in him : and he cannot sin because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil!—1 John iii. 9, 10. *b*They went out from us, but they were not of us—1 John ii. 19. *c*God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able ; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it—1 Cor. x. 13. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time—1 Peter i. 5.

ART. X. *Harmony of the Law and Gospel.* That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government ;*a* that it is holy, just, and good ;*b* that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin ; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of a visible Church.*c*

*a*Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled—Matt. v. 18. *b*Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good—Rom. vi. 12. *c*That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit—Rom. viii. 4. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid : yea, we establish the law—Rom. iii. 31.

ART. XI. *Of a Gospel Church.* That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel ; observing the ordinances of Christ ;*a* governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word ;*b* that its only proper officers are bi-shops or pas-



tors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties, are defined in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.*c*

*a*Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, to all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints—Rom. i. 7. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death—Rom. vi. 3. Paul, an apostle, unto the Churches of Galatia—Gal. i. 1, 2. For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Jesus Christ, have put on Christ—Gal. iii. 26, 27. *b*Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administration, but the same Lord—1 Cor. xii. 4, 5. *c*A Bishop, then, must be blameless—1 Tim. iii. 1-7. Likewise must the Deacons be grave—1 Tim. iii. 8, 9, 10; see also Titus i. 7, 8, 9. Let the Elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in word and doctrine; and, the laborer is worthy of his reward. Against an Elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.—1 Tim. 17, 18, 19.

ART. XII. *Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.* That Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit; *a* to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our *faith* in a crucified and risen Saviour, with its purifying power; *b* that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a Church relation; and to the Lord's Supper; *c* in which the members of the Church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.*d*

*a*See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest; and he said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And they went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him—Acts viii. 36, 37, 38. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—Matt. xxviii. 19. *b*Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead—Col. ii. 12. *c*Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God—John iii. 5. Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the DISCIPLES. And upon the first day of the week, when the DISCIPLES came together to break bread—Acts xx. 7. For as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come—1 Cor. xi. 36. *d*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup—verse 28.

ART. XIII. *Of the Christian Sabbath.* That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath,*a* and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations; *b* by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; *c* and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.*d*

*a*I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day—Rev. i. 10. *b*Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy—Ex. xx. 8. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it—verse 11. *c*Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow—Acts xx.

7. *d*There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God---Heb. iv. 9. Let us labor, therefore, to enter into that rest---verse 11.

ART. XIV. *Of Civil Government.* That civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society ;*a* and that magistrates are to be prayed for,*b* conscientiously honored and obeyed,*c* except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ,*d* who is the only Lord of the conscience, and Prince of the kings of the earth.*e*

*a*For there is no power but of God : the powers that be are ordained of God--Rom. xiii. 1. For he is the minister of God to thee for good---verse 4. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil---verse 3. *b*I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men ; for kings and for all that are in authority--1 Tim. i. 1, 2. *c*Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake--Rom. xiii. 5. *d*We ought to obey God rather than men--Acts v. 29, *e*Christ is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords--1 Tim. vi. 15.

ART. XV. *Of the Righteous and the Wicked.* That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked ;*a* that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem,*b* while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in his sight wicked, and under the curse ;*c* and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.*d*

*a*He that is not with me is against me--Luke xi. 23. Now, if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his--Rom. viii. 9. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil : whosoever doeth not righteousness, is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother--1 John iii. 10. *b*To declare, I say, at this time, his righteousness ; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus --Rom. iii. 26. But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God--1 Cor. vi. 11. *c*Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish--Luke xiii. 3. He that believeth not is condemned already--John iii. 18. *d*He that is unjust, let him be unjust still ; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still ; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still ; and he that is holy, let him be holy still--Rev. xxii. 11.

ART. XVI. *Of the World to Come.* That the end of this world is approaching ;*a* that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution ;*b* that a solemn separation will then take place ;*c* that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy ;*d* and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.*e*

*a*But the end of all things is at hand : be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer--1 Peter iv. 7. *b*For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God : and the dead in Christ shall rise first--1 Thes. iv. 6. All that are in their graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth : they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life ; and they that have done evil, unto the

resurrection of damnation--John v. 28, 29. cAnd before him shall be gathered together all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the goats--Matt. xxv. 32. dAnd these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal--Matt. xxv. 32. eAnd the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to his works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death--Rev. xx. 13, 14. SHALL NOT THE JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH DO RIGHT?--Gen. xviii, 25.

### Financial Statement from Treasurer's Report.

#### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION FUND.

Amount balance in hand from last year's account transferred to new account for 1856,		\$ 340 78
Amount cash sent up by Churches for this fund,		226 61
		<hr/>
		\$ 567 39
Pledge from Town Creek Church,	\$ 15 00	
“ “ Union “	10 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 25 00	

#### DESTITUTE CHURCH FUND.

Amount of cash in hand,	\$ 67 95
“ pledges to this Fund not redeemed,	30 00

#### BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION FUND.

Received for general Domestic Missions,	\$ 52 50
“ “ “ Foreign “	16 00
“ “ “ Indian “	53 30
“ “ Beneficiaries of Howard College,	66 92
“ “ Bible Distribution,	48 97
“ “ Southern Publication Society,	14 50
“ “ Central African Missions,	1 00
“ “ Bro. Webster, beneficiary in Howard College,	5 00
“ “ Sabbath Collection,	40 60
“ of Miss M. E. Lide and J. M. Lide for beneficiary in Howard College,	2 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 301 29

All paid over to the agents representing the various objects, by order of the Association.  
W. B. HARALSON,  
Treasurer.

**STATISTICAL TABLE FOR 1855.**

Names of the Churches.	Post Offices.	Ministers.	Clerks.	Bapt'd	R'd by Vouc'r	Rec'd by letr	Dism d by letr	Excl'd	Rest'd	Dead	Whites	Blacks	Whole No	Sab'th meet's
<i>1st District.</i>														
P'rovidnce.....	Orville.....	J. Dennis.....	.....	38	.....	5	23	5	2	6	36	85	121	4
Shiloh.....	do.....	J. Dennis.....	W. Johnson.....	10	.....	4	13	2	3	3	25	210	235	3
Centre Ridge.....	do.....	C. F. Sturgis.....	J. W. Dennis.....	15	.....	18	8	4	1	1	80	150	230	4
Mt. Lebanon,(Dal)	do.....	P. H. Lundy.....	T. M. Robinson.....	1	1	7	1	2	2	2	62	28	90	4
Town Creek.....	Lowades,do..	D. Peebles.....	B. F. Hardy.....	.....	.....	2	7	6	1	1	128	82	210	2
Sister Springs.....	do.....	D. Peebles.....	J. Johnson.....	1	.....	1	8	.....	1	1	36	63	99	1
Bethlehem.....	do.....	P. H. Lundy.....	H. W. Caffey.....	10	.....	1	5	.....	1	3	64	142	206	1
<i>2d District.</i>														
Renton.....	do.....	L. Lyon.....	W. H. Sayre.....	.....	.....	4	5	.....	.....	1	16	23	39	4
Mt. Gillead.....	do.....	P. H. Lundy.....	J. A. Edwards.....	.....	.....	12	12	2	1	1	36	96	132	3
Ash Creek.....	do.....	D. Peebles.....	J. O. Miller.....	2	.....	7	.....	1	4	4	51	86	137	4
Hopewell.....	Mount Willing	D. Lee.....	J. H. Robertson.....	1	.....	5	5	1	1	1	75	48	123	1
Hayneville.....	do.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	36	14	50	2
Fellowship.....	Sunny Side.....	.....	T. Blake.....	3	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	15	1	16	.....
Lowdesboro'.....	do.....	P. H. Lundy.....	W. W. James.....	4	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	5	19	2
Bethel.....	Fort Deposit.....	J. E. Bell.....	S. Jordan.....	4	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	15	15	.....
Good Hope.....	Maniingham.....	D. Lee.....	A. Peagler.....	6	.....	2	4	1	.....	.....	40	3	43	2
<i>3d District.</i>														
Montgomery.....	Montgomery.....	L. T. Tichenor.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	208	395	598	E. S.
Rehoboth.....	do.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	362	422	444	1-3
Elim.....	do.....	A. T. M. Handy.....	M. McLeMore.....	21	.....	2	8	3	3	3	22	422	444	4
Salem.....	do.....	R. Stewart.....	J. Caffey.....	9	5	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	16	25	1
Antioch.....	Mount Meigs.....	W. Williams.....	W. B. Ray.....	44	4	4	9	5	1	13	35	341	376	2
Unity.....	Prattville.....	.....	B. F. Smith.....	11	.....	10	12	.....	.....	.....	77	39	116	.....
<i>4th District.</i>														
Damascus.....	Greenville.....	J. E. Bell.....	J. McLeon.....	19	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....	100	13	113	3
Union.....	Three Runs.....	Missionary.....	J. M. Mitchell.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	1	1	22	1	23	.....
Spring Hill.....	Milville.....	J. S. Holmes.....	F. Webb.....	4	.....	3	2	.....	.....	.....	28	1	29	.....

Siloam	Milville,	Butler county	J. S. Holmes	S, Bishop	3	11	164	38	11	46	1544	2413	4354	2
New Hope	do	do	J. A. Fonville		3	11	7	3	1	3	21	3	24	2
Hickory Grove	Hickory Grove,	Montg'y	I. M. Wilkes	R. H. Foxhall	3	11	4	2	1	1	44	11	55	3
Panther Creek	Line Creek,	do	I. M. Wilkes	W. Fitzpatrick	3	11	2	19	2		37	53	90	4
Greenwood	do	do	— Nixon	J. T. Hudson	1	11	5	5		1	31		35	2
New Ebenezer	Argus,	do	J. S. Holmes	J. G. Cook	15	11	1	1			32	3	35	3
Philadelphia	do	do	J. S. Holmes	I. R. McLendon	4	11	2			1	26	5	31	3
Bethesda	Strata,	do	J. Park	N. D. Wright	4	11				1	19	2	21	4
*Pine Level	Pine Level	do			4	11					20	27	47	3
Liberty	do	do			4	11	4				22	43	65	4
Mt. Lebanon	Catoma	do	G. G. McLendon	J. R. Ray	4	11	3				4	1	5	2
Armageddon	Oak Grove	do	J. T. S. Park	A. Boyd	4	11	3				4	1	5	2
TOTAL					235	11	114	164	38	11	46	1544	2413	4354

\*Formerly Sarepta.  
†Rehoboth Church subscribed \$64.00 for Associational purposes.  
NOTE.—No reports having been received from Montgomery, Rehoboth, Siloam and Liberty Churches, their numbers are taken from their last reports.

**MINUTES**  
*OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF THE ALABAMA BAPTIST*  
*ASSOCIATION.*

---

CENTRE RIDGE CHURCH, Oct. 15, 1855.

The meeting was organized by calling Bro. DeVotie to preside, and Bro. D. Lee to act as Secretary.

The Preamble and Constitution of an Associational Bible Society, sent by Bro. A. C. Dayton, Corresponding Secretary of the Bible Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, having been read and amended, were adopted.

In order that we may more systematically and effectually co-operate with the Baptist Bible Society of this State, and the Bible Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, in the great work of circulating the Holy Scriptures, we hereby form ourselves into a Bible Society, to act in connection with this Association, and adopt the following

**CONSTITUTION.**

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the Bible Society of the Alabama Baptist Association.

OF MEMBERS.

ART. II. This Society shall be composed of the following classes of persons :

1st. Of all the messengers sent up with funds from congregational or other local Bible Societies, which shall be entitled to one delegate for every five dollars sent up.

2d. Of representatives of Churches, Missionary Societies, Sunday Schools, or any other bodies which shall send up funds, one delegate for every five dollars sent up.

3d. Of all persons who shall have paid ten dollars or more, at any one time, to this Society, or to any one of its auxiliaries. Such persons shall be counted members for life.

4th. Of all persons who are present at any meeting of the Society and contribute the sum of one dollar, who shall be considered members for the year.

ART. III. The object of this Society shall be to aid in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures ; and the funds collected by us shall be sent up to the State Baptist Bible Society of our own State.

OF OFFICERS.

ART. IV. The officers of this Society shall be, a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall perform the duties common to such officers in similar organizations ; and shall be elected by a plurality of votes at each annual meeting ; and in case of a failure to elect, shall hold their places until another meeting.

## OF MEETINGS.

ART. V. The regular annual meetings of this Society shall be held at the same time and place with the meetings of our Association, at which the following order of business shall be observed :

1st. The reports of the Treasurer and of the Board of Directors shall be read.

2d. A sermon, or other address or addresses suitable to the occasion, shall be delivered.

3d. An opportunity given to those present to become members, by subscribing or contributing to our funds, and a general collection taken up.

4th. Officers elected for the next meeting. An adjourned meeting may be held at any time, or one may be called at any time, by the President or either of the Vice Presidents.

## OF LIFE DIRECTORS.

ART. VI. Any person who shall contribute to our funds the sum of twenty dollars, at any one time, or in two annual installments, shall be considered life directors, and with the officers of the Society, shall constitute a Board to attend to any business in the intervals of the regular meetings.

ART. VII. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting.

A collection was taken up amounting to \$64,30.

Elected the officers of the Society by acclamation. Bro. C. F. Sturgis, President. The President took the Chair. Vice Presidents, Brs. D. Peebles, D. Gordon, D. Lee. Bro. I. Lyon was elected Secretary and Treasurer, and took his seat accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the funds now on hand, belonging to this Society, be turned over to our State Bible and Book Depository, unless otherwise directed by the contributors.

*Resolved*, That the Churches of this Association be requested to form auxiliary Bible Societies, auxiliary to this Society, and that they designate the objects for which their funds shall be distributed, whether foreign or domestic.

Any church contributing funds to this Society can obtain one-half the amount in Bibles.

All unfinished business to be referred to the Board of Directors.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to obtain the names of all who have contributed, or who may wish to contribute.

Committee ; Bros. M. S. Cleveland, D. R. Lide. W. E. Wiatt.

*Resolved*, That the Minutes of this Society be appended to those of the Alabama Baptist Association, that body consenting, and that this Society will pay her pro ratio.

NAMES OF MEMBERS—J. D. Williams, W. E. Wiatt, R. Carson, J. Perry, R. H. Rhane, A. Peagler, J. H. DeVotie,

J. J. Cloud, J. Kolby, F. Hardy, E. Sherrer, J. A. Fountain, F. L. Ellis, T. Barlow, I. S. Alison, M. E. Lide, J. M. Lide, S. J. Fountain, I. Lyon, C. H. Cleveland, L. Edwards, P. H. Lundy, R. H. Molton, S. Jordan, W. B. Haralson, F. M. Law, N. D. Wright, W. H. Alford, E. C. McIver, Miss B. Lide, Miss N. Holmes, Miss H. Holmes, Miss N. Bell, Mrs. Molton, Mrs. D. Peebles, D. Peebles, W. W. Hardy.

By order of the Society, the Treasurer paid to Bro. F. M. Law, Agent of the Alabama Baptist Bible Society, the amount collected during the meeting, viz. : \$64,30.

Prayer by Bro. DeVotie

Adjourned to meet with the Alabama Baptist Association at her next meeting.

C. F. STURGIS, President.

I. LYON, Secretary.









## ADDRESS OF MINISTERS

CONNECTED WITH THE CHURCHES OF THIS ASSOCIATION

NAMES.	POST OFFICES.	COUNTIES.
C. F. Sturgis.....	Richmond.....	Polk
P. H. Lundy.....	Penton.....	Lewis
O. P. Ables.....	do.....	do
I. Lyon.....	do.....	do
D. J. e.....	Mount Willard.....	do
I. M. Wilkes.....	Union Springs.....	Montgomery
A. T. M. Hany.....	Cross Keys.....	do
I. T. Tichenor.....	Mount Pleasant.....	Montgomery
— Nixon.....	Greenville.....	do
J. Dennis.....	do.....	J. L. e.....
R. Stewart.....	do.....	J. S. H. e.....
J. Park.....	do.....	J. A. F. e.....
.....	G. C. Merlenden.....	.....